

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) An air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system that provides compressed air to the mat when the mat is disposed in a bathtub comprising:

a flexible member having at least two layers defining a plurality of air passages;
a receptacle through which the compressed air is provided to the air passages;
a plurality of air holes formed in the air passages through which compressed air is emitted from the air passages into the bathtub; and

a plurality of flexible blocks secured between the layers defining the plurality of air passages at spaced locations adjacent the air passages and sealed between the layers to prevent water contact with the blocks, each of the plurality of flexible blocks having a fixed size and shape.

15. (original) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 14 wherein the flexible member includes a soft vinyl material.

16. (original) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for a air bubble massage system of claim 14 wherein the at least two layers of the flexible member are polymer sheet material secured together at spaced locations to define the air passages.

17. (original) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for a air bubble massage system of claim 14 wherein the air holes are limited in size and number to provide a flow restriction that causes the air passages to be inflated when compressed air is provided to the air passages.

18. (original) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for a air bubble massage system of claim 14 wherein each of the flexible blocks are enclosed in a sealed chamber formed of polymer sheet material having seams that define the air passages and sealed chambers, wherein the air passages and sealed chambers are separate from each other.

19. (original) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for a air bubble massage system of claim 14 wherein two layers of thermoplastic sheet material are bonded together about the periphery of the flexible member, the two layers are also bonded together around the flexible blocks and thereby define the air passages in a branched array.

20. (currently amended) An air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system that provides compressed air to the mat, comprising:

a flexible member having at least two layers defining a plurality of air passages;
a receptacle through which the compressed air is provided to the air passages;
a plurality of air holes formed in the air passages through which compressed air is emitted from the air passages; and

~~at least one~~ a plurality of discrete foam members separately sandwiched and sealed within separate chambers between the layers defining the plurality of air passages, the chambers to prevent preventing water from contact with the foam members and prohibiting volumetric alterations in an amount of material comprising each foam member.

21. (previously presented) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 20 wherein the flexible member includes a soft vinyl material.

22. (previously presented) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 20 wherein the at least two layers of the flexible member are polymer sheet material secured together at spaced locations to define the air passages.

23. (previously presented) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 20 wherein the air holes are limited in size and number to

provide a flow restriction that causes the air passages to be inflated when compressed air is provided to the air passages.

24. (previously presented) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 20 wherein the at least one foam member is enclosed in a sealed chamber formed of polymer sheet material having seams that define the air passages and sealed chambers, wherein the air passages and sealed chambers are separate from each other.

25. (previously presented) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 20 wherein two layers of thermoplastic sheet material are bonded together about the periphery of the flexible member, the two layers are also bonded together around the at least one foam member and thereby define the air passages in a branched array.

26. (new) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 20 wherein a volume of material comprising each of the plurality of discrete foam members is the same for a majority of the plurality of discrete forma members.

27. (new) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 20 wherein a cross-sectional pattern of each of the foam members is substantially identical.

28. (new) The air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 27 wherein the cross-sectional pattern creates a scaffold-shaped pattern of material and areas devoid of material that extends substantially from a top surface to a bottom surface of each chamber.

29. (new) The bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 14 further wherein at least 14 of the plurality of flexible blocks are rectangular and comprised of an equal volume of foam material.

30. (new) The bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 29 wherein each of the at least 14 of the plurality of flexible blocks have the same dimensions and are orientated lengthwise relative to a width of the flexible member, the width of the flexible member being shorter than a length of the flexible member.

31. (new) The bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 14 wherein the layers provide a sealed chamber around each of the plurality of the flexible blocks such that a volume of material comprising each of the plurality of flexible blocks cannot be changed once the layers are sealed.

32. (new) The bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system of claim 31 wherein the volume of material forms a material pattern within each sealed chamber wherein at least a portion of the material pattern extends continuously from proximate an upper surface to proximate a lower surface of each sealed chamber to form a generally honeycomb cross-section of material.

33. (new) An air bubble massage bathtub mat for an air bubble massage system that provides compressed air to the mat when the mat is disposed in a bathtub comprising:
a flexible member having at least two layers defining a plurality of air passages;
a plurality of air holes formed in the air passages through which compressed air is emitted from the air passages into the bathtub; and

a plurality of resilient blocks sealed within non-ventilated chambers included between the layers at areas between at least a portion of the plurality of air passages.

34. (new) The bathtub mat of claim 33 wherein the plurality of resilient blocks have a first dimensional configuration when supporting a first amount of load and a second dimensional configuration when supporting a second amount of load, wherein each of the plurality of foam blocks elastically change from the second dimensional configuration to the first dimensional configuration when the second amount of load is removed and the first amount of load is applied.

35. (new) The bathtub mat of claim 33 wherein a cross-section of the plurality of resilient blocks is substantially identical.

36. (new) The bathtub mat of claim 33 wherein a material comprising each of the plurality of resilient blocks forms a pattern characterized by areas having material and areas devoid of material that extends substantially from a top surface to a bottom surface of each chamber.

37. (new) The bathtub mat of claim 36 wherein the material cannot be removed from the chambers once the chambers are sealed.

38. (new) The bathtub mat of claim 33 wherein the plurality of resilient blocks maintain a constant size and shape when all fluid, including the compressed air, is removed from the bathtub mat.